



LEAD PUBLIC HEALTH

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THE SPEAKERS



Jewel Mullen, MD, MPH, MPA

As commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Dr. Mullen oversees the state's leading public health agency. Appointed to this position by Governor Dannel Malloy in December 2010, Dr. Mullen has combined clinical work, research, teaching and administration throughout a career focused on improving the health of all people, especially the underserved.

Prior to joining the department, Dr. Mullen was director of the Bureau of Community Health and Prevention at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Dr. Mullen previously served as the medical director of Baystate Mason Square Neighborhood Health Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. Her priorities at the Connecticut Department of Public Health include chronic disease and injury prevention, health care quality and safety, health equity, and supporting local efforts to create healthy communities.

In 2012 the CDC appointed Dr. Mullen to its advisory committee on health disparities, a subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director; and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, appointed her to chair the CDC's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection and Control Federal Advisory Committee. She also is the New England regional representative to the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Board of Directors and chairs ASTHO's Prevention Policy Committee. In 2013 she was appointed to the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Quality Measures for the Healthy People Leading Health Indicators.

Board certified in internal medicine, Dr. Mullen received her Bachelor and Master of Public Health degrees from Yale University where she also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in psychosocial epidemiology. She graduated from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine where she was elected to AOA, the National Medical Honor Society, after which she completed her residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She also holds a Master in Public Administration degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

A leader in building effective community-based chronic disease prevention programs, Dr. Mullen is committed to improving individual and population health by strengthening coordination between the public health and health care systems. She recognizes that efforts to improve the health of individuals and communities must be informed by an understanding of the social context which determines their behaviors and their access to resources.



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Kathi Traugh, MPH

Ms. Traugh is the Public Health Professional Development Coordinator and Assistant Director of the CT-RI Public Health Training Center at the Yale School of Public Health where she coordinates and implements continuing education programs for public health practitioners in collaboration with internal and external partners and provides technical assistance to public health agencies on workforce development. Ms. Traugh also acts as the Project Director for the CT Partnership for Public Health Workforce Development, where she has served in numerous capacities since the Partnership's creation in 2000. Previously, Ms. Traugh served as the lead coordinator for the Yale Center for Public Health Preparedness (YCPHP) where she provided daily administrative oversight for project activities and acted as a primary contact for practice partners while managing a portfolio of activities in environmental health, public health nursing, workforce development planning and public health disaster ethics. Ms. Traugh also served as the lead consultant for National Public Health Performance Standards Program statewide needs assessment in Connecticut, which was conducted in 2008. Prior to joining YCPHP, she served in a statewide capacity, working on the CDC Bioterrorism Cooperative Agreement where she was responsible for activities to strengthen local health department emergency response capacity, with emphasis on improving local access to continuing education opportunities and building a distance learning infrastructure. Her professional experience includes directing and coordinating a variety of statewide and community-based educational grant projects, as well as employment in a local health department as a public information officer. Additionally, she has conducted numerous community health needs assessment studies as a consultant, some of which have contributed to local health policy changes. Ms. Traugh presently serves as the President of the Connecticut Public Health Association.



William G. Faraclas, DrPH

Professor William G. Faraclas, is founder of the Public Health program at Southern Connecticut State University, where he chaired the Department of Public Health for 33 years. Dr. Faraclas was the architect of one of the nation's first undergraduate degree programs in public health, which "went live" in 1980 at SCSU, and was instrumental in developing Southern's MPH program. He is Director of SCSU's International Field Studies in Health Program, through which he has taken 26 groups of students to Guatemala and Mexico, and Director of the Environmental Health Training Program, a workforce development collaborative with the Connecticut Department of Public Health. He is recipient of the J. Philip Smith Outstanding Teaching Award (2004) and the Robert E. Jirsa Service Award (2013)—two of the University's top honors. He is a member of the Connecticut Public Health Association Board of Directors and President of the SCSU Faculty Senate.



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Mayor Toni Harp

An abiding commitment to social justice steers Toni Harp's career in public service. Over time she earned a reputation as "the conscience of the Senate" at the Capitol. Her drive for inclusiveness, equality, and integrity is the byproduct of resonant, across-the-board life experiences.

Toni was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, the youngest of six children; an African-American Baptist in a primarily white, almost universally Mormon community. Both of her parents worked to support the family. Her mother was a Teamster and worked for Greyhound Bus Lines while her father worked for the Santa Fe Railroad.

Toni's tireless work ethic is a function of lessons learned from her parents.

In the 1960s, Toni moved to the south side of Chicago to attend college. She earned a degree and began working for the American Society of Planning Officials. Her lifelong interest in urban planning and how cities work can be traced to that first job. From there, Toni was recruited to study at Yale's School of Architecture where she earned a Master's degree.

One of Toni's early lessons about the rewards of activism was the result of a social justice matter when she worked - coincidentally - for the City of New Haven. Toni helped organize AFSCME Local 3144, a management union, and she became the Human Resources Department's first union steward.

Toni's enduring respect for working people and her tireless advocacy for issues important to all citizens has been unwavering since.

Toni's public service in elected office began, first as a member of New Haven's Board of Aldermen, and then, for the past 20 years, as Senator for the 10th District.

Throughout her distinguished tenure, Toni's signature issues have never waived:

- Full access to affordable healthcare, regardless of ethnic, cultural, or economic differences.

- A responsive and effective public safety network working hand-in-hand with an equitable criminal justice system.

- Maximizing opportunity for each individual student through public education, with particular emphasis on early childhood learning and development of reading skills.

- Job creation and economic development so city residents can enjoy the rewards and responsibilities of productive engagement, and so a vibrant city can provide necessary services without putting an excessive burden on taxpayers.

Then-Senator Harp recently co-chaired the state's Achievement Gap Task Force, created to address the undeniable disparity in educational access and performance, which exists



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First Selectman Mary A. Glassman

Mrs. Glassman is the First Selectman of the Town of Simsbury, a quiet, residential town of 24,000 residents, nestled in the Farmington Valley. Born in New Britain, Mrs. Glassman has been a dedicated Connecticut resident her whole life.

After graduating St. Thomas Aquinas High School, she attended the University of Connecticut graduating with a degree in journalism, following that up with a law degree from the University Of Connecticut School Of Law.

Mrs. Glassman privately practiced law with the firm Pepe & Hazard, and between 1991 and 1999, served as Simsbury's First Selectman. Mrs. Glassman also has experience in the state capitol, serving as special counsel to both former Speaker of the House Moira Lyons and Senate President Kevin Sullivan, along with serving as chief of staff in the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

Mrs. Glassman has shown dedication to the state of Connecticut, having served as Director of Legislative Affairs at CT Voices for Children, a non-profit advocacy organization whose mission is helping Connecticut children in need.

In 2007, Mrs. Glassman was again elected as First Selectman, and has served the Town of Simsbury since.